AMENDMENTS

Listing of Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings or versions thereof:

568. (Currently Amended) A ~~variable stride~~ stationary exercise apparatus~~,~~ comprising:

a frame;

~~a crank system coupled to the frame, wherein the crank system comprises a crank diameter;~~

~~a foot member coupled to the crank system, wherein the foot member comprises a footpad;~~

~~a variable stride system coupled to the foot member, wherein the variable stride system comprises a cam device having a cam surface, wherein the length of the cam surface is greater than the crank diameter of the crank system, and wherein the variable stride system is configured to allow a user of the apparatus to vary the length of the user's stride during use of the apparatus;~~

~~wherein the apparatus is configured such that a foot of the user can travel in a substantially curvilinear path during use of the apparatus; and~~

~~wherein the apparatus is configured such that at least a portion of the apparatus remains substantially stationary during use.~~

a first crank system having a left side and a right side, said first crank system coupled to the frame;

a second crank system having a left side and a right side, said second crank system coupled to the frame;

a left cam system having a left cam surface, said left cam system pivotally coupled to the left side of the first crank system and coupled to the left side of the second crank system;

a right cam system having a right cam surface, said right cam system pivotally coupled to the right side of the first crank system and coupled to the right side of the second crank system;

a left pivotal linkage assembly comprising a left cam follower and a left foot member having a left foot pad; and

a right pivotal linkage assembly comprising a right cam follower and a right foot member having a right foot pad.

wherein the left pivotal linkage assembly is coupled to the left side of the first crank system by engagement of the left cam surface with the left cam follower and the right pivotal linkage assembly is coupled to the right side of the first crank system by engagement of the right cam surface with the right cam follower so as to allow a substantially instantaneously variable stride, and

wherein the apparatus is configured such that the foot of the user may move in a substantially closed path.

Please cancel claims 569-597 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 769-791 as follows:

769. (New) A stationary exercise apparatus comprising:

a frame;

at least a first crank system having a left side and a right side, said first crank system coupled to the frame;

a left cam having a left cam surface, said left cam pivotally coupled to the left side of the first crank system;

a right cam having a right cam surface, said right cam pivotally coupled to the right side of the first crank system;

a left pivotal linkage assembly comprising a left cam follower and a left foot member; and

a right pivotal linkage assembly comprising a right cam follower and a right foot member,

wherein the left pivotal linkage assembly is coupled to the left side of the first crank system by engagement of the left cam surface with the left cam follower and the right pivotal linkage assembly is coupled to the right side of the first crank system by engagement of the right cam surface with the right cam follower so as to allow a substantially instantaneously variable stride, and

wherein the apparatus is configured such that the foot of the user may move in a substantially closed path.

770. (New) The apparatus of claim 568 wherein the feet of the user may travel in a substantially closed elliptical path.

771. (New) The apparatus of claim 568 wherein the feet of the user may travel in a closed orbital path.

772. (New) The apparatus of claim 568 further comprising a brake/inertia device coupled to the crank system.

773. (New) The apparatus of claim 772 wherein the brake/inertia device is coupled to a portion of the frame in front of the user.

774. (New) The apparatus of claim 772 wherein the brake/inertia device is coupled to a portion of the frame behind the user.

775. (New) The apparatus of claim 772 further comprising a housing, wherein the housing encloses at least a portion of the brake/inertia device.

776. (New) The apparatus of claim 568 wherein the left and right cam surfaces are nonsymmetrical.

777. (New) The apparatus of claim 568 wherein the left and right cam surfaces are symmetrical.

778. (New) The apparatus of claim 568 wherein the apparatus has a maximum stride length that is at least about 40% of the overall length of the apparatus.

779. (New) The apparatus of claim 568 wherein the crank system comprises a pulley.

780. (New) The apparatus of claim 779 wherein the crank system comprises a left crank and a right crank coupled to the pulley.

781. (New) The apparatus of claim 780 wherein the length of each left and right cam surface is at least two times the length of either left or right crank.

782. (New) The apparatus of claim 769 wherein the crank system comprises a pulley.

783. (New) The apparatus of claim 782 wherein the crank system comprises a left crank and a right crank coupled to the pulley.

784. (New) The apparatus of claim 769 wherein the feet of the user may travel in a substantially closed elliptical path.

785. (New) The apparatus of claim 769 wherein the feet of the user may travel in a closed orbital path.

786. (New) The apparatus of claim 769 further comprising a brake/inertia device coupled to the crank system.

787. (New) The apparatus of claim 786 further comprising a housing, wherein the housing encloses at least a portion of the brake/inertia device.

788. (New) The apparatus of claim 769 wherein the left and right cam surfaces are nonsymmetrical.

789. (New) The apparatus of claim 769 wherein the left and right cam surfaces are symmetrical.

790. (New) The apparatus of claim 769 wherein left and right pivotal linkage assemblies are cross-coupled.

791. (New) The apparatus of claim 769, wherein the left and right foot members and the left and right cam systems are configured to provide a force that restores the users feet to a substantially neutral position during use of the apparatus.